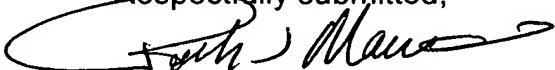


Remarks

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to amend the claims in accordance with the New Amendment Format announced in the pre-OG notice dated January 31, 2003. The amendments herein were implemented in order to place the claims in ideal condition for U.S. prosecution, and new method claims 11-16 were added in order to claim this disclosed embodiment of the invention. The claim amendments herein have ample support at various locations in the specification; no new matter was added.

Entry of the subject amendments prior to the initial examination of the present application on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Ralph J. Mancini
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 34,054

Akzo Nobel Inc.
Intellectual Property Dept.
7 Livingstone Avenue
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522-3408
(914) 674-5465